

**STATE YOUTH COUNCIL ON WORKFORCE SERVICES  
JANUARY 14, 2004**

*Members Present:* Bryan, Rickie  
Darais, Tom  
Griffin, Wayne  
Jackson, Paul  
Oliver, Gary  
Otto, Paul  
Zogmaister, Jan

*DWS Staff:* Broadhead, Jane  
Gilbert, Bob  
Halladay, Roger  
Hill, Susan  
Lovell, Diane  
Mayne, Chris  
Moyes, Linetta  
O'Berto, Lorna

*Guests:* Tierney-Hunt, Becky  
Haywood, Bob  
Thompson, Barbara  
Uchiba, Don

**WELCOME, APPROVAL OF SYC MEETING MINUTES 10/09/03**

Chair Jan Zogmaister welcomed the members. The previous meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

**TRANSITION TO ADULT LIVING**

Barbara Thompson gave an overview of Governor Walker's Work Plan that focuses on the transition to adult living by children in foster care. The Division of Children and Family Services (DFCS) and community partners held a youth conference in June to explore the needs of youth in this situation. A subsequent summit was held with adult leaders of the youth. There is a broad spectrum of youth, including those with mental illness, those who aren't succeeding in school as well as many who are bright and have the ability to be productive in society. The needs outlined were employment assistance, additional education, affordable housing, drivers' licenses, mentors, good life skills such as budgeting, and meal preparation.

Barbara disseminated chart showing youth ages 14-21 in DFCS custody on a 'day in time' throughout the state. It was found that DFCS needs partners such as DWS to tap the needed resources.

The Governor has formed a small implementation team plus task groups to focus on employment, life skills, mentoring, physical and mental health, transitional support, transportation and a web site development.

To eliminate barriers and join policies of various agencies, the Policy Academy was developed through NGA funding. Eight agency directors and federal agency representatives will work to coordinate their programs and eliminate barriers. There are many resources; coordination is needed to help youth in foster care.

Jane noted that there are 220 kids in foster care who are participating in WIA youth services. The timing for this effort by the Governor is positive in relation to WIA reauthorization as foster care and corrections are targeted in WIA. Many of the things youth need are available through the service system of WIA. She encouraged the living coordinators to be part of regional youth councils. She has drafted a letter to extend that invitation and will forward it to the coordinators. This will be integral in helping to achieve these goals.

Jan encouraged the youth council chairs to find out how many in foster care in their areas are receiving services. Barbara added that this connection is critical and DFCS is striving to improve connections.

## **BUDGET**

Linetta Moyes disseminated current information on expenditures and obligations. The improvement in out-of-school youth expenditures is reflected; there are still issues on out-of-school youth expenditures in Eastern and Western. The state total is over 38%; she would like Eastern and Western to pull over 30%. Youth expenditures are spending at a higher rate than last year, so she doesn't anticipate a problem with meeting the 70% expenditure by June. Funds from Central that weren't obligated were moved to Eastern and Western or they would have been out of money by July 1<sup>st</sup>. In summary, youth looks good; the out-of-school youth needs a push, but is being met as a state.

## **WIA SEMINAR**

Jane Broadhead reported that 15% set aside money was available for leadership projects and the September seminar -- \$7,500 was set aside and \$5,000 was spent. Most of the cost was for the facility, guest rooms, and keynote speaker. Positive participant feedback was received with requests that it be repeated annually.

## **WIA PERFORMANCE DATA**

Jane Broadhead referenced program year 2003, second quarter information included in the committee's packet. The July – Dec information is based on timeframes in the report. Statewide, two measure are not at 100% : (1) Older Youth Earnings Rate change measure. A \$2400 benchmark has been negotiated. As the outcome level is less than last year, it should be o.k. (2) Younger Youth Skill Attainment is off a small amount. The regional outcome chart shows specific regions as to outcomes.

## **UPDATE – GOING HOME GRANT**

Tom Darais noted there will be a related article in their newsletter. The grant is to transition youth coming out of secured care and is funded 70% by DOL. A supplemental \$80,000 will be applied to corporate internships, with part paid to add incentives to employers to make the partnership succeed. Overall, there are many partnerships involved. The aftercare program is a full rep service, looking at mentoring, substance abuse counseling, and employment – a full array of services. Focusing on the WIA part, it is significant to note that of the 22 WIA Participating Youth, 15 have completed a successful internship. It is hoped that the partnership being formed in Utah County can be replicated in Salt Lake and other counties.

This is second year of the project. This basically takes it out of Corrections; it is a model between Corrections, WIA providers and DWS. There are several employment and education related skills that can be provided by DWS. Aftercare counselors can be trained to provide services such as education, credentials, career needs assessment, bonding for youth if at risk. Jane asked if youth coming out of Corrections can enroll in Job Corps. It was noted that various stipulations must be met in order to be accepted into Job Corps.

In summary, the program is partnering with WIA and receiving internships and jobs. Over the period of the grant over 100 youth are involved. By addressing substance abuse, employment and education issues, youth will have a better chance of succeeding.

## **STATE YOUTH COUNCIL SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES**

*Communication and Awareness* – Tom Darais noted the subcommittee held a meeting today; he disseminated their newsletter. He feels it is meeting the objective of keeping stakeholders informed. Foster care will be added to the distribution list. They are contacting the offices of the Utah Senate and House to add them to the distribution list. Jan Zogmaister and Raylene Ireland will prepare an introductory statement when this goes out. As our resources are limited, the subcommittee will look at way to add self to the distribution list. There was discussion about placing information, such as provider availability, on the web.

## **STATUS OF WIA YOUTH REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

In anticipation of reauthorization, a WIA boilerplate was created. WIA has not been reauthorized. When Congress reconvenes a committee will work out the differences between the House and Senate versions; the White House favors the House version. Jane disseminated a side-by-side comparison of the bills. The Youth portion has been posted to the DWS website. Our current contract with providers is a result of the original RFP. State code allows us to sign a contract for one year with an additional 5-year extension based on performance. We are reaching the end of the extension (5 total years). At this point we are not in danger of running out of time. As soon as we know what will happen with WIA, the Western, North and Eastern regions are ready to announce their RFPs. The other two regions have another year before they need to RFP.

A timeline was disseminated which gives idea of what has happened at regional and state levels when the process began. Without reauthorization, a continuing resolution will need to be passed when the current law expires in June.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Bob Haywood commented on the importance of getting youth viably employed in good jobs. This depends on employers to bring it full circle in successful closure.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned.